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French Smiths back home in California

John McCaslin, from the White House, files this: Former Attorney General William French Smith and his wife have moved out of the Jefferson Hotel and are finally back at home in California after patiently awaiting the confirmation of Edwin Meese III as the nation's chief law enforcement officer. But Mr. Smith will still be reporting to President Reagan in an official capacity — as his private attorney and as a member of the president's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Although Mr. Smith told The Washington Times recently that he was looking forward to the foreign policy appointment so that he could continue to spend time in Washington, it was not until yesterday that Mr. Reagan announced that the former attorney general would be given a seat on the 21-member board.